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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/853,716	WILSON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Saoussen Besrour	2131	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to communication filed 8/28/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 10, 11, 25, 28-32, 35, 36 and 48-51.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>11/7/07</u> 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
|---|--|


AYAZ SHEIKH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to amendment filed 8/28/2007. Claim 4 was amended. Claims 7-9, 12-24, 26-27, 33-34 and 37-47 were cancelled. New claims 50 and 51 were added. Claims 1-6, 10, 11, 25, 28-32, 35, 36 and 48-51 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, filed 08/28/2007 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-6, 10, 11, 25, 28-32, 35, 36 and 48-51 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The admitted prior art Yuasa et al. (6085238) discloses: a virtual LAN system forms a virtual group which is based on elements having physical attribute or logical attribute and constituting a virtual LAN, sets client address and priority of the virtual group registration table, and allocates unicast and broadcast traffic bands in group units. The secondary admitted prior art Short et al. (20060239254) discloses controlling and customizing source access to a network, where the source is associated with a source computer, and wherein the source computer has a transparent access to the network via a gateway device. A user may be prevented access from a particular destination or site based upon the user's authorization while being permitted to access other sites.

However the admitted prior arts do not teach disclose or suggest "receiving a request from a non-technically trained user of a visitor based network (VBN) to establish a group of users in the VBN, the request including a group identifier which includes a group name and password provided by the user and identifies the group; configuring, in response to the request, a network infrastructure of the VBN to support the group without intervention of information systems personnel; allowing other non-technically trained users of the VBN to Join the group by using the group name and password; further configuring the network infrastructure of the VBN to support the joining users without intervention of information systems personnel; and dissolving the group based on predetermined rules including a predetermined rule to dissolve the group at expiry of a predetermined period, wherein the step of further configuring the network infrastructure includes the step of configuring a switch port that a joining user is connected to with a VLAN associated with the group.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comment on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

6. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ikuko Wada (No. 43,432) on November 7, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

50. (~~Currently-added~~ New) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of: automatically determining and assigning an internet protocol (IP) address for the user connected on the VBN; registering the user in association with addressing information including the assigned IP address and a Media Access Control (MAC) address of the user; and storing and maintaining the addressing information for the registered user.

51. (~~Currently-added~~ New) The server of claim 28, wherein the registration module automatically determines and assigns an Internet Protocol (IP) address for the

user connected on the VBN, and registers the user in association with addressing information including the assigned IP address and a Media Access Control (MAC) address of the user.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Saoussen Besrour whose telephone number is 571-272-6547. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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